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A Study of the Cognomina of Soldiers in the Roman Legions.

By LINDLEY RICHARD DEAN. Princeton, 1916. pp. 321.

For a number of years doctoral dissertations have been appearing, for the most part in Germany, which have taken up one at a time the history of the legions of the Roman army. Several books and articles dealing with the Roman army have been written lately, of which Cagnat's *L'Armée romaine d'Afrique* and Cheesman's *The Auxilia of the Roman imperial army* have been distinct contributions to our knowledge of the military side of Roman history. There has just appeared a Princeton dissertation by L. R. Dean entitled, *A Study of the Cognomina of Soldiers in the Roman Legions*, which takes its place as an important contribution in this field.

Dr. Dean has collected some 5700 names of Roman "soldiers, veterans, and under-officers up to and including *primi pili*", and published them in alphabetical order of cognomina at the end of his dissertation, being pages 127-321. Chapter one is given over to Popular Cognomina, and chapters two and three to the Classification of Cognomina. The writer says in his introduction that he was led to undertake his study in part because Schulze in his *Lateinische Eigennamen* had said that the collection and classification of cognomina would bring valuable results, and in part because E. Bormann had made a statement in his *Roemischer Limes* about the cognomina Firmus and Severus that challenged investigation. Dr. Dean's table of cognomina shows that there are seven cognomina which far outnumber Severus, and that Firmus is hardly in the running at all, which goes to show that such generalizations as Bormann's are dangerous unless backed by statistics.

The author sets twenty as the minimum number of examples competent to make Popular Cognomina. There are fifty-six cognomina found more than twenty times each. Felix is first, 210 times; Saturninus second, 183 times; Victor third, 167 times; Valens fourth, 152 times; Maximus fifth, 146 times; Secundus sixth, 110 times; Rufus seventh, 96 times; then Severus, Ianuarius, Vitalis, Donatus, Crescens, and so on, in a rapidly diminishing scale. Alexander, found 50 times, is the only cognomen not of Roman origin that appears more than twenty times; Datus, Donatus, and Rogatus are found practically only in Africa.

In the second chapter there are a number of tables which classify the cognomina in a way that is enlightening and suggestive. Three broad divisions are made of the 1333 cognomina used: first, according to form and meaning, second, according

to endings, and third, of foreign origin. Nearly one third of the whole number of different cognomina are adjectival in form. There are 39 which denote qualities suited to men in military service, such as Audax, Bellicus, Dexter, Laevus, Ferox, Repentinus; there are 42 which denote physical characteristics, such as Albus, Calvus, Gracilis, Longus, Magnus, Mutilus, Taurinus; 61 which denote mental or moral characteristics, among which may be named Amabilis, Asper, Castus, Dignus and Dignissimus, Garrulus, Mellitus, Serenus, Verus and Verissimus; 82 with geographical or racial significance, as Africus, Celtiber, Gallicus, Lugudunolus, Tuscus. It is interesting to find that all the numeral adjectives except those for 'eighth' and 'ninth' are used as cognomina; that there are 54 forms of participial adjectives; 93 nouns of different groups as illustrated by the following examples, Pupus, Ballista, Caprarius, Leo, Aquila, Auster, Stella, Cicatricula; 34 connected with names of divinities; and 35 well-known Roman cognomina, such as Agrippa, Cato, Pansa, Scipio, Seneca, and Varus. The rest of the chapter is taken up with lists of cognomina ending in -a, -anus, -ianus, -inus, -lis, -o, -osus, and those of foreign origin.

Seven supplementary paragraphs make up chapter three. Double cognomina are treated first, and several such names are given as C. Tannonius Felix qui et Aquensis, but Dr. Dean finds no quite satisfactory explanation for the second cognomen or supernomen. The reviewer wonders if he considered the possibility of the supernomen being used to distinguish two men in a legion who had the same name.

It is next shown that before the reign of Claudius, soldiers' names with cognomina are rare, and that the cognomina of the first century are mostly adjectives; that more than one third of all the soldiers' names are found in Africa, and that the most striking characteristic of the cognomina in Africa is that they are in the form of past participles. Uncomplimentary cognomina, Sterceius being as unsavory as any, are found, but as Dr. Dean suggests very pertinently, such names are not often likely to follow a man to his grave-stone. There are a number of such names as Iulius Iulianus, Valerius Valerianus, and the like, with both nomen and cognomen formed on the same stem.

The writer shows that he has used the *Ephemeris Epigraphica* (so quoted on page 111, although on pages 8 and 9 he cites it as *Éph. Epigr.*, on page 93 as *Ephem. Epigr.*, and on page 108 as *Ephem. Epigr.*), but it is unfortunate that it is not listed among the abbreviations. The bibliography lays no claim to completeness, so omissions are not unexpected. It happens that the reviewer remembered hearing Professors O. Hirschfeld and Ed. Meyer speak of a dissertation by Martin Bang, which had been completed the year before he was him-

self their student. Its title is *Die Germanen im römischen Dienst bis zum Regierungsantritt Constantius I* (Berlin, 1906), and the II. Abschnitt, *Namen und Heimatsbezeichnung* (pp. 17-24), has several points which would have been suggestive to Dr. Dean, and which would have added a few names to his list.

I notice also at least one inscription given by Carl Tschauschner (*Legionare Kriegsvexillationen von Claudius bis Hadrian*, Breslau Dissertation, 1907, page 29) found at Baalbek in Syria which mentions a C. Velius Rufus, p(rimus) p(ilus) leg. xii Fulm(inatae) whose name does not seem to appear in the author's alphabetical list of soldiers. This position of *primus pilus* is the lowest in the *cursus honorum* of C. Velius Rufus, and it may well be that he does not belong in Dr. Dean's list.

The long alphabetical list of names which fills pages 128-321 is a valuable piece of work. The reviewer has noticed very few misprints, and has no right to complain of a scheme for a list which is so consistently followed. None the less, abbreviations without punctuation seem to him to give a page an unfinished appearance. Perhaps also the English word "Date"? which appears in a great number of the inscriptions, might have been left out entirely, the author's explanation on page 127: "(2) Date, wherever possible" being sufficient, it would seem, to cover the case.

Such criticisms, if criticisms they are, are captious. The dissertation is a good piece of work, and well worth doing, and is one in which both Dr. Dean and Professor Abbott may well take satisfaction.

R. V. D. M.

The Origin of the Cult of Artemis. By J. RENDEL HARRIS, Manchester: The University Press, 1916. Reprinted from "The Bulletin of the John Rylands Library", April-July, 1916.

As I intimated in a previous number of the JOURNAL, the vegetarian interpretation of mythology dies hard and reminds me by its persistence of the vitality exhibited by the locust tree (*Robinia pseudacacia*), a vitality more familiar to some people I know than the Book of Job, quoted A. J. P. XXXVII 107. If the semblance of bark be left on a locust post, it will put forth branches and leaves that demand the stern action of the hatchet, but, for one, I have no desire or, in fact, competence to ply the woodman's bill on my friend Rendel Harris's arborescences. For aught I know, the leaves his tree puts forth may be for the healing of mythology or at all events may serve as